

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-43 (Canceled).

Claim 44. (Previously presented) A method of operating a device for communicatively coupling one of at least two communication networks, each having an associated information format, to either a packet network or another of the at least two communication networks, the method comprising:

receiving, from the packet network or the one of at least two communication networks, information requesting setup of a call between the one of at least two communication networks and either the packet network or another of the at least two communication networks;

providing, to a host device, at least a portion of the information requesting setup of a call;

receiving, from the host device, directions based upon the at least a portion of the information requesting setup of a call; and

communicatively coupling the one of at least two communication networks to either the packet network or another of the at least two communication networks, according to the directions from the host device.

Claim 45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein the packet network is compliant with an Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45 wherein the Internet Protocol is compliant with the transmission control protocol (TCP)/ Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein packets comprise digitized voice information.

Claim 48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein packets comprise non-voice data.

Claim 49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48 wherein at least a portion of the non-voice data is unrelated to the communication of digitized voice information.

Claim 50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein voice is communicated, by the device, over the one of at least two communication networks in packet form.

Claim 51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 50 wherein the packets are compliant with an Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51 wherein the Internet Protocol is compliant with the transmission control protocol (TCP)/ Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 53. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44 wherein the at least two communication networks comprise[[s]] a conventional telephone switching network.

Claim 54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 wherein the associated format is an analog format.

Claim 55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 wherein the associated information format is a digital format.

Claim 56. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 53 wherein the associated format is a modem signal.

Claim 57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114 wherein the conversion of information received in a packet format for transmission in the associated format comprises converting digitized voice information into an analog voice signal.

Claim 58. (Cancelled)

Claim 59. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114 wherein the conversion of information received in the associated format for transmission in the packet format comprises converting an analog voice signal into digitized voice information.

Claim 60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 114 wherein conversion of information received in the associated format for transmission in a packet format reduces a number of voice packets transmitted via the at least one packet network, by changing the packetization when voice activity on the at least one network interface is below a predetermined level.

Claim 61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein the host device is a personal computer.

Claim 62. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein the packet network is a wireless network.

Claim 63. (Previously Presented) A non-transitory machine-readable storage having stored thereon a computer program having a plurality of code sections for implementing a system for communicatively coupling one of at least two communication networks, each having an associated information format, to either a packet network or another of the at least two communication networks, the code sections executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform operations comprising:

receiving, from the packet network or the one of at least two communication networks, information requesting setup of a call between the one of at

least two communication networks and either the packet network or another of the at least two communication networks;

providing, to a host device, at least a portion of the information requesting setup of a call;

receiving, from the host device, directions based upon the at least a portion of the information requesting setup of a call; and

communicatively coupling the one of at least two communication networks to either the packet network or another of the at least two communication networks, according to the directions from the host device.

Claim 64. (Cancelled)

Claim 65. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 63 wherein the packet format is compliant with an Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 66. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 65 wherein the packet format is the transmission control protocol (TCP)/Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 67. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 63 wherein the at least two communication networks comprises a conventional telephone switching network.

Claim 68. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 67 wherein the associated communication format of the one of at least two communication networks is an analog format.

Claim 69. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 63, wherein the code sections executable by a machine cause the machine to perform operations comprising:

communicating with the host device digitized voice information.

Claim 70. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 63 wherein the packet network is a wireless network.

Claim 71. (Previously Presented) One or more circuits for use in a device for communicatively coupling one of at least two communication networks, each having an associated information format, to either a packet network or another of the at least two communication networks, the one or more circuits comprising:

at least one processor operatively coupled to interface circuitry for communicating using the packet network and the at least two communication networks, the at least one processor operable to, at least:

receive, from the packet network or the one of at least one two communication networks, information requesting setup of a call between the one of at least two communication networks and either the packet network or another of the at least two communication networks;

provide, to a host device, at least a portion of the information requesting setup of a call;

receive, from the host device, directions based upon the at least a portion of the information requesting setup of a call; and

communicatively coupling the one of at least two communication networks to either the packet network or another of the at least two communication networks, according to the directions from the host device.

Claim 72. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71 wherein the packet network is compliant with an Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 73. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 72 wherein the Internet Protocol is compliant with the transmission control protocol (TCP)/ Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 74. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71 wherein packets comprise digitized voice information.

Claim 75. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71 wherein packets comprise non-voice data.

Claim 76. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 75 wherein at least a portion of the non-voice data is unrelated to the communication of digitized voice information.

Claim 77. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71 wherein voice is communicated by the device, over the one of at least two communication networks in packet form.

Claim 78. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 77 wherein the packets are compliant with an Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 79. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 78 wherein the Internet Protocol is compliant with the transmission control protocol (TCP)/ Internet protocol (IP).

Claim 80. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71 wherein the at least two communication networks comprises a conventional telephone switching network.

Claim 81. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 80 wherein the associated format is an analog format.

Claim 82. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 80 wherein the associated information format is a digital format.

Claim 83. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 80 wherein the associated format is a modem signal.

Claim 84. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 125 wherein the conversion of information received in a packet format for transmission in the

associated format comprises converting digitized voice information into an analog voice signal.

Claim 85. (Cancelled)

Claim 86. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 125 wherein the conversion of information received in the associated format for transmission in the packet format comprises converting an analog voice signal into digitized voice information.

Claim 87. (Previously Presented) The one or more circuits of claim 125 wherein conversion of information received in the associated format for transmission in a packet format reduces a number of voice packets transmitted via the at least one packet network, by changing the packetization when voice activity on the at least one network interface is below a predetermined level.

Claim 88. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71 wherein the host device is a personal computer.

Claim 89. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71 wherein the packet network is a wireless network.

Claim 90. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 115 wherein the method comprises:

automatically determining the period of time using a propagation delay of the packet network, if the conversion comprises converting packetized digital voice information to a voice stream.

Claim 91. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein the determining is performed before communication of voice begins.

Claim 92. (Currently amended) The method of claim 90 wherein the determining is performed during communication of voice, and wherein a voice path is attenuated if

~~variation of~~ the propagation delay of the packet network is above a predetermined threshold value ~~certain level~~.

Claim 93. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 121 wherein the operations comprise automatically determining the period of time using a propagation delay of the packet network, if the conversion comprises converting packetized digital voice information to a voice stream.

Claim 94. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 93 wherein the determining is performed before communication of voice begins.

Claim 95. (Currently amended) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 93 wherein the determining is performed during communication of voice, and wherein a voice path is attenuated if ~~variation of~~ the propagation delay of the packet network is above a predetermined threshold value ~~certain level~~.

Claim 96. (Currently amended) The one or more circuits of claim ~~[[126]]~~ 127 wherein the at least one processor is operable to, at least, automatically determine the period of time using a propagation delay of the packet network, if the conversion comprises converting packetized digital voice information to a voice stream.

Claim 97. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 96 wherein the determining is performed before communication of voice begins.

Claim 98. (Currently amended) The one or more circuits of claim 96 wherein the determining is performed during communication of voice, and wherein a voice path is attenuated if ~~variation of~~ the propagation delay of the packet network is above a predetermined threshold value ~~certain level~~.

Claim 99. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44 wherein the host device accesses user-modifiable data comprising a plurality of call destination identifiers each having an associated one of a plurality of routing path identifiers, and wherein the

host device produces the directions by identifying the routing path identifier associated with a call destination identifier in the information requesting setup of a call.

Claim 100. (Previously presented) The method of claim 99 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes the host device to prompt the user to select a call route.

Claim 101. (Previously presented) The method of claim 99 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via the Internet.

Claim 102. (Previously presented) The method of claim 99 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via a local area packet network.

Claims 103. (Previously presented) The method of claim 99 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via a switched telephone network.

Claim 104. (Previously Presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 63 wherein the host device accesses user-modifiable data comprising a plurality of call destination identifiers each having an associated one of a plurality of routing path identifiers, and wherein the host device produces the directions by identifying the routing path identifier associated with a call destination identifier in the information requesting setup of a call.

Claim 105. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 104 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes the host device to prompt the user to select a call route.

Claim 106. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 104 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via the Internet.

Claim 107. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 104 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via a local area network.

Claim 108. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 104 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via a switched telephone network.

Claim 109. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71 wherein the host device accesses user-modifiable data comprising a plurality of call destination identifiers each having an associated one of a plurality of routing path identifiers, and wherein the host device produces the directions by identifying the routing path identifier associated with a call destination identifier in the information requesting setup of a call.

Claim 110. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 109 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes the host device to prompt the user to select a call route.

Claim 111. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 109 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via the Internet.

Claim 112. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 109 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via a local area network.

Claim 113. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 109 wherein the plurality of routing path identifiers comprises a routing path identifier that causes routing of a call via a switched telephone network.

Claim 114. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein communicative coupling comprises converting information from a packet format to the associated communication format of the one of at least two communication networks;

and transforming information from the associated communication format of the one of at least two communication networks to a packet format.

Claim 115. (Previously presented) The method of claim 114, wherein the conversion of information received in a packet format for transmission in the associated format comprises buffering digitized voice information for a period of time to minimize gaps in a voice signal.

Claim 116. (Currently amended) The method of claim 115, wherein the period of time is calculated at different stages of a call based upon a level of variation in propagation delay of received packets.

Claim 117. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein specifics regarding packetization of voice data of a call are managed between the host device and a controller in the device.

Claim 118. (Previously presented) The method of claim 117, where a controller in the device directs conversion of voice data to an analog voice signal, and conversion of an analog voice signal to voice data.

Claim 119. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein providing comprises accumulating a plurality of dialed digits for transmission to the host device.

Claim 120. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 63, wherein communicative coupling comprises converting information from a packet format to the associated communication format of the one of the at least two communication networks; and transforming information from the associated communication format of the one of the at least two communication networks to a packet format.

Claim 121. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 120, wherein the conversion of information received in a packet format for

transmission in the associated format comprises buffering digitized voice information for a period of time to minimize gaps in a voice signal.

Claim 122. (Currently amended) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 121, wherein the period of time is calculated at different stages of a call based upon a level of variation in propagation delay of received packets.

Claim 123. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 63, wherein specifics regarding packetization of voice data of a call are managed between the host device and a controller in the device.

Claim 124. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 123, where a controller in the device directs conversion of voice data to an analog voice signal, and conversion of an analog voice signal to voice data.

Claim 125. (Previously presented) The non-transitory machine-readable storage of claim 63, wherein providing comprises accumulating a plurality of dialed digits for transmission to the host device.

Claim 126. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71, wherein communicative coupling comprises converting information from a packet format to the associated communication format of the one of at least two communication networks; and transforming information from the associated communication format of the one of at least two communication networks to a packet format.

Claim 127. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 126, wherein the conversion of information received in a packet format for transmission in the associated format comprises buffering digitized voice information for a period of time to minimize gaps in a voice signal.

Claim 128. (Currently amended) The one or more circuits of claim 127, wherein the period of time is calculated at different stages of a call based upon a level of variation in propagation delay of received packets.

Claim 129. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71, wherein specifics regarding packetization of voice data of a call are managed between the host device and a controller in the device.

Claim 130. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 129, where a controller in the device directs conversion of voice data to an analog voice signal, and conversion of an analog voice signal to voice data.

Claim 131. (Previously presented) The one or more circuits of claim 71, wherein providing comprises accumulating a plurality of dialed digits for transmission to the host device.